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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9833
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 6225
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SUBJECT: LIMA NAS END OF MONTH REPORT - DECEMBER

11. (U) Summary:

- * Police Report
- * Maritime Ports Program Report
- * Change in PNP Counterpart for ILEA Program
- * Eradication Report
- * Aviation Report
- * NAS Conducts Humanitarian Mission in VRAE

Police Report

- 12. (U) At the end of each year, the Peruvian National Police undergoes a rotation/reassignment of all personnel. In an unusual move, though not unprecedented, the current head of the National Anti-drug Direction (DIRANDRO) General PNP Miguel Hidalgo has been confirmed by President Garcia to continue in his position for another year. However, the PNP commanders of the anti-drug bases, the road interdiction units and the NAS sponsored police academies will be changed; the names are expected to be announced at the end of January.
- ¶3. (U) For the month of December, DRIANDRO destroyed 1,225 rustic laboratories; 19 HCL laboratories; 470 MT of chemical precursors and seized 11 metric tons of cocaine paste and 16 metric tons of HCL PNP located at the Mazamari base destroyed 18 hectares of Marihuana in the area of Chinchao. At the end of December, 480 Pre-academy students successfully completed their academic year. They are expected to take the PNP Academy entrance exam within the coming month.

Maritime Ports Program Report

- 14. (U) Overall, NAS Maritime Ports sponsored units interdicted 1,873.66 kilos (1.8 Metric Tons) of cocaine HCL and 120,000 USD in the airport and seaport of Lima/Callao. Cases of note include the seizure of 597.87 kilos of HCL hidden in guano awaiting shipment from the port of Callao and the detection by canines and ion scans of one metric ton of cocaine mixed in a vitamin supplement/male enhancement herb destined for Hong Kong.
- 15. (U) The Chemical Interdiction Unit raided six chemical laboratories in the Monzon. The unit seized 582 gallons of kerosene, 1142 kilograms of sulfuric acid (which can produce approximately 200 kilograms of cocaine), 63 kilograms of sodium carbonate, and 74 kilograms of muriatic acid. The

total value seized is estimated at 240,000 USD.

Change in PNP Counterpart for ILEA Program

16. (U) The PNP Operations Manager for the ILEA program, General Adolfo Mattos, has been transferred to a new posting in the northern part of Peru. Beginning January, ILEA responsibilities have been transferred to DIRANDRO.

Eradication Report

17. (U) The original goal for eradication in 2008 was set at 8,000 hectares for the year. By end of operations in mid-December, 10143.12 hectares was eradicated for the year. (338.01 completed in December) Eradication operations for 2009 are expected to begin mid January.

Aviation Report

110. (U) Beginning December 15th, Aviation assets and personnel were redeployed to the Main Operating Base at Pucallpa for the holiday stand-down period. Flight crews were reduced to the minimum required to cover emergencies and required post-maintenance test flights. DynCorp and PNP maintenance crews conducted phase and other critical maintenance during this period. Flight crews at Palma Pampa PNP base were reduced from five flight crews to 2.5 and the number of helicopters have been reduced from five to three, however, limited interdiction operations continued throughout the holidays. Furthermore, Peruvian Armed Forces joint with special counter terrorism PNP units conducted combat operations through the holiday season. Unfortunately, one Peruvian soldier was killed when a Peruvian Air Force MI-17 helicopter was hit by small arms fire during operations.

NAS Conducts Humanitarian Mission in VRAE

111. (U) In an effort to encourage good relations between the local population and the PNP, the NAS Director, Senior Aviation Advisor, Police Programs Advisors, General Hidalgo and NAS support staff visited the PNP base at Palma Pampa in order to make a charitable donation to the local medical clinic. NAS donated dental hygiene products, blankets and toys for the local children. This particular clinic is the only serviceable clinic with a Doctor for over twenty communities. NAS and the PNP have conducted several service projects with this clinic in the past to include improving the water system, structural repairs, paint, and equipment donations to the maternity ward. Palma Pampa continues to be a strong narco-controlled area and service projects such as this donation are part of the strategy to increase community support for the PNP and its CN activities.

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